

A CRITICAL REVIEW OF PALEOANTHROPOLOGICAL STUDIES OF THE AVARS IN HUNGARY

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Introduction

The importance of populations and ethnic groups living in the Carpathian Basin in the Avar period (between 568 and 800—805) is extremely great as to the ethnic history of the Middle Ages. Owing to the relative scarcity of written sources, paleoanthropological and archeological findings are also of decisive importance. In a short critical survey I wish to give a list of anthropological studies dealing with the area of present time Hungary and attempt — with regard to the quantitatively and qualitatively varying merits of the respective articles — to give a brief critical and scientific evaluation, as well. Finally I have also the purpose of elucidating the history of researches and problems of the Avar age.

First of all it appears to be important to note that I do not think fortunate to undertake a merely mechanical enumeration where the author is completely impartial as to the merits of the paleo-anthropological elaboration of a given series or to the importance of the interpretation in promoting science. In contrast to the old-fashioned craniometry one of the modern tendencies in historical anthropology is to study questions of the analysis and synthesis of paleoanthropology (not only of metric but also of comparative morphological character). This idea was exposed in details in several of my papers (LIPTÁK, 1961a, 1965).

While the enumeration given below tries to be complete, the annexed table does not contain all the sites, a few, less important ones having been omitted. The evaluative survey in the article attempts to give some basically important information from a uniform point of view; series having greater importance owing to the large number of measurements obtain a more plentiful description. The time of publication has been regarded as an important factor, since it means for later publications partly an increased number of comparative material, partly a wider differentiation of the point of view of the paleoanthropological studies. The following short survey makes it clear which are the merely informative papers and which raise — at least to some extent solve — new problems. Papers of general character dealing with the Avar age will be discussed later.

Review of series from the Avar period

From the early publications of the material I mention two monographs by L. BARTUCZ, one of them dealing with the Körösladány excavations concerned with a very fragmentary material of an extremely low number of cases (1929) and the other with the Mosonszentjános series without individual metric data (1929). I will later come back to that latter because of its taxonomic importance.

Afterwards was published a monograph of the same author concerning a limited number of skeletons around Jutas and Öskü (this time with individual metric data) in a volume, edited by GY. RHÉ and N. FETTICH, containing archeological studies (1920). L. BARTUCZ (again in a volume of N. FETTICH) in 1936 gave a brief description of the Avar age skeletal finds in county Fehér (Sukoró, Előszállás-Öreghegy, Előszállás-Bajcsihegy, Cece and Igar).

A rather brief account of six skeletons in the Kiszombor cemetery No. 0 was given by L. APOR and E. ROSZTÓCZY (1939). In this early Avar-age material artificial cranial deformation was also found.

Of the great number graves (889) from the Avar-age near Győr only 9 skulls were saved, a detailed description of them being given by J. NEMESKÉRI (1943). Unfortunately, relying upon the small number of material we cannot have a detailed picture of the population of this very important cemetery, but it is worth mentioning that it contains a certain Mongoloid component, as well.

The material of Ürböpuszta (earlier Áporkai-Ürböpuszta) with a much more considerable number of cases was elaborated by P. LIPTÁK (1951); it is predominantly of Europoid character. The excavations were done by T. HORVÁTH (1935); no simultaneous archeological evaluation had been done but this was later carried out (1957) by I. BÓNA.

The evaluation (by E. BÁTAI, 1952) of the skeletal remains of Váchartyán (excavation in 1950 by G. FEHÉR and co-workers) was not carried out with a faultless measuring technique, therefore it cannot be used for further comparisons, but after a control of the metric data. An archeological description was given later (L. FERENCZY, 1963).

From the cemetery of Jánoshida (full name: Jánoshida—Tótképuszta) having a relatively great number of graves the excavators (led by FETTICH, 1933—34) did not endeavour to reach a complete saving of the skeletons. The anthropological material was worked up by WENGER (1953). As to its evaluation see LIPTÁK's remarks (1958).

The incomplete saving of anthropological material is even more characteristic of the cemetery named Szob-Homokok (excavations by HORVÁTH, 1928 and 1935), the material of which — together with series from the Árpadian age — was published by LIPTÁK (1953). No archeological evaluation has been done.

The first major series and its elaboration concern the Avar cemetery named Kecel I. (otherwise Kecel—Határdülő, excavations by FETTICH and HORVÁTH, 1932—33), where 54 skulls were saved from 91 graves, 45 of which proved to be suitable for detailed metric and taxonomic analysis. The series is distinguished by the possibility of establishing the hybridization of Europoids and Mongoloids very expressly (LIPTÁK, 1954). These results were later used also by A. THOMA (1965) in his researches concerning fossil Man. In the same publication a very small material from Kecel II. (Kecel—Körtefahegy), completely Europoid in character, was also elaborated. Unfortunately no map of the cemetery is available. The archeological elaboration took place later (Á. SÓS, 1958).

The taxonomic analysis relying upon a cemetery map of Üllő I. (Üllő—Disznó-járás) was a considerable step forward both from theoretical and methodical points of view. Of 116 skeletons (excavations were done by FETTICH and HORVÁTH in 1931 and 1932) 82 were in excellent condition. This is the *only* greater Avar series published so far where the Mongoloid element can be pointed out to a marked extent. The archeological elaboration of the cemetery was carried out by T. HORVÁTH with the traditional method in 1935. In his methodically important work GY. LÁSZLÓ,

studying the Avar society with an archeological approach (1955), stated on the basis of cemetery map two clans (archeological groups), namely both the early and late Avars, as named by archeologists. The anthropological material supported the reality of separation beside establishing in one of the groups a very remarkable difference in the type-spectrum of males and females. The same anthropological publication contains the evaluation of the cemetery excavated by I. KOVRIG and Á. Sós in 1950 and 1951 and named by the author of the present paper Üllő II. A detailed archeological analysis of this was carried out and published simultaneously with the anthropological studies by Á. Sós in 1955. The enclosed Table contains Üllő III as well, containing two graves dugged up later by KÁROLY KIS, an Üllő resident; this material was published together with the material of the cemetery Üllő I. Only for sake of completeness we mention that a few skeletons from the Üllő Avar age cemetery are housed in the Vienna Naturhistorisches Museum, as well.

An archeological evaluation of the Avar princely cemetery, excavated at the lane Kiskőrös—Vágóhid between 1935 and 1938, was done by GY. LÁSZLÓ in his work referred to above. He regards the cemetery as belonging to the early Avar period. A detailed elaboration of the material was performed by J. NEMESKÉRI (1955); the Mongoloid characteristics are strikingly dominating here. — The material of Mór—Akasztódomb was published, as well, by NEMESKÉRI in the same paper; unfortunately, the individual metric data do not contain any designation of males and females and no figures are given about this important material. The archeological elaboration was performed by GY. TÖRÖK (1955) who dates back the graves to the 6th century; thus it is easily possible that here we are having ancient Bulgarians.

In Csepel the skeletal remains of a distinguished Avar male of Mongoloid character have been dugged up, their evaluation has been done by NEMESKÉRI in the same elaboration.

The first elaboration of the Szentes—Kaján material is connected with the name of S. WENGER (1955); some critical remarks to his paper are given by L. BARTUCZ (1957). A complete evaluation of the cemetery becomes only possible if together with the map of the graves a new analysis could be done, possibly on the basis of the anthroposystematics followed in the course of the analysis of other graves from the Avar age. This material can be found in the Institute of Anthropology of the Attila József University in Szeged, but the present stock is of lower number than published earlier. Anthropological studies have been carried out with 52 skulls of the Szentes—Kaján Avar age cemetery by S. WENGER (12 of them can be found in Budapest, 40 in Szeged). The Budapest material was not studied by Bartucz, but 31 crania (kept in Szeged) declared as fragmentary by Wenger were placed by him among the findings suitable for taxonomic determination. The series is of Europoid character. The archeological elaboration was done by J. Korek (1943), the publication does not contain the map of the graveyard.

As a result of excavations carried out in Zagyvarékas by N. FETTICH in 1930 7 skulls in a fairly good state were found which were studied by LIPTÁK (1956a). They were overwhelmingly Europoid with an expressed chamaecrany. This short article also contains the elaboration of sporadic finds of Mongoloid character, found at Dunaegyháza as well as that of the two skulls found near Vác in the course of the salvage excavation.

A total of 14 skeletons were found in the lane Kiskőrös—„Pobihuj“ (excavations by HORVÁTH and FETTICH, 1933), of which altogether 10 adults were found suitable for detailed investigations (LIPTÁK, 1956b); the material is mostly Europoid and

partly of Mongoloid character respectively. No archeological evaluation has been done.

From 56 graves in Ondód, near Debrecen only 3 well preserved skulls could be saved (excavations of ZOLTAI and SÖREGI, 1925—26), they are distinguished with their pronounced Mongoloid character. Their taxonomic determination is partly erroneous (MALÁN, 1956). Archeological elaboration done by L. ZOLTAI and J. SÖREGI (1927).

Mention must also be made of shorter publications by WENGER, e. g. KONDOROS (1956a) with its 4 adult skulls and Kunszentmárton (1956b) with 3 rather incomplete adult skulls. Both finds are Europoid in character.

The second greatest Avar age series following Üllő I. is, according to the order of publication, Homokmégy—Halom, excavated by FETTICH and LÁSZLÓ in 1936. From 167 graves 84 skeletons were saved, 71 adult ones in good condition. Metric and taxonomic study of them was done by LIPTÁK (1957). In the same journal the archeological evaluating remarks by GY. LÁSZLÓ (1957) were also published as an appendix to the anthropological study. This grave is mostly Europoid and of the anthropological components the Nordoid one is dominating, amounting to 47 per cent of the total population. The anthropological picture of the wealthy social layer and of the commons (servants) is different. Mediterranean race cannot be found among wealthy males while at the same time it is quite frequent among the common people and the not too numerous Mongoloid element is restricted merely to the group of the wealthy.

The anthropological study of the Avar age cemetery excavated near Alattyán village (this name is of Turkish origin) was first carried out by S. WENGER, who had published his preliminary results — not free of errors — in 1952, then correcting the sexes he again published the whole material in details, with individual metric data (1957). Up to the present time this is the greatest anthropological series from the Avar age. Altogether 225 adult (117 male and 108 female) crania could be subjected to more detailed investigations. The Alattyán cemetery is one of the most completely excavated graveyards dating back to the Avar age. The process of work was fairly long indeed (1934—1938), with participation of several archeologists (N. FETTICH, GY. LÁSZLÓ, I. MÉRI and GY. DOMANOVSKY). Its archeological finds were elaborated in a special volume of monographs by I. KOVRIG (1963). In a chapter of this monograph I carried out the comparative paleoanthropological evaluation of the skeletal remains of the cemetery, including an analysis on the basis of the map of the graveyard, too. In the anthropological material of the graves the most important component is the brachycranial group, Cromagnoids and Mediterraneans being close next.

The material from Tiszaderzs was elaborated by LEBZELTER. His manuscript remained unpublished for quite a long time in Hungary, at last in a somewhat shortened form it appeared in „Crania Hungarica“ (1957). He studied the skeletal remains of altogether 33 adults. Relying upon LEBZELTER's work and also having studied the skulls themselves, I have carried out the taxonomical analysis again, with the result that in this series the Nordoid race is dominating.

Near Újkécske—Óbög salvage excavations were carried out by FETTICH in 1931: only 10 graves were found of which two males of Mongoloid type were suitable for metric examination (LIPTÁK, 1958).

Much more important is Tiszavárkony, where on the border of the Tisza inundation plain salvage excavation were performed by Á. SÓS and P. LIPTÁK in 1952.

A cemetery mostly from the early Avar period (7th century) was found here with horse graves and iron swords. Only a long and narrow stretch of the cemetery could be excavated and the unequal distribution of the sexes could likely be ascribed to this fact. Namely of the 52 skeletons from 92 graves, 23 males and 9 females were in good condition. This cemetery from the early Avar period is almost completely of Europoid character. The probability of Avares being involved is largely supported by the name Várkony (varchonites!). Unfortunately enough, the archeological evaluation has not been done, as yet; publication of the anthropological material was done by LIPTÁK (1958).

At the lane Szigetszentmiklós—Háros salvage excavations were carried out by Á. Sós and P. LIPTÁK in 1954. From 23 graves 11 skeletal remains were unearthed in a rather bad condition, only 4 of them being liable to a more detailed anthropological examination. First the anthropological study was done (LIPTÁK, 1958), while the archeological description was performed by Á. Sós (1961). The cemetery can be dated to the first half of the 7th century, it had been rather rich but later sacked. Part of the skulls is Armenoid in character what indicates the eastern origin of the population.

A reliable differential diagnosis based upon the skulls of Europoids and Mongoloids is quite an old problem and in this respect there is a fairly wide uncertainty in the literature of anthropology. The solution of this question was made possible through a thoroughful taxonomical analysis of the Mongoloid anthropological components of Avares in Hungary. But it was a long way till collecting the material for investigation.

To this end from the anyhow predominantly Mongoloid series and from the scattered finds a comprehensive series was gathered. This contained on the one hand some material already published as e. g. Mosonszentjános — where the measures were to be taken again since the original publication had not contained them —, Öskü (evaluation by BARTUCZ), Győr, lane Kiskőrös—Vágóhid and Csepel (elaborated by Nemeskéri), Debrecen—Ondód (elaborated by MALÁN), the Úllő I., Kiskőrös—„Pohibuj“, Újkécske—Óbög (elaborated by Lipták) as well as the Mongoloid skulls from Váchartyán (remeasured by me) and, as a new material, remnants from Harka, Kiskőrös—Cebepusza, Öcsöd, Tatárszentgyörgy and Madaras. Of all these altogether 87 skulls (81 in very good state of preservation) of Mongoloid character were examined (LIPTÁK, 1959). Finally this combined series also incorporated the material from the small Avar cemetery near Budapest-Népstadion, where from 35 graves 17 skeletons were unearthed, of them 7 were adults in good condition with pronounced Mongoloid characteristics. A detailed study of the Népstadion cemetery was published later (LIPTÁK, 1963). My work about the Mongoloids of the Avar period in Hungary gave a chiefly morphologic differential diagnosis of the Europoid and mongoloid great races. Craniosystematics developed within the Mongoloid great race differs from that given by authors in West and Central Europe incorporating successfully the results of the Soviet anthropologists. Owing to this it became clear that the „Mosonszentjános-A“ type, so well described by BARTUCZ, is the same as the Baikal race described by Soviet authors.

A detailed description of the Avar age cemetery at Szebény is given by T. TÓTH (1961). He carried out the paleodemographic and also the horizontal facial profiling examinations — introduced just by him into the Hungarian anthropological literature — besides the traditional Martin method. From the 341 graves only 38 adults in good condition were suitable for anthropological examinations. The material

is completely Europoid in character thus the author regards it not as Avar but only an Avar-age cemetery.

The Csákrényi cemetery from the 6th—7th centuries was excavated between 1936 and 1939 (by A. MAROSI and GY. LÁSZLÓ with their co-workers), the elaboration of the skeletal remains was done by T. TÓTH (1962). His method was the same as in the former publication. The skeletal material in this cemetery of 452 graves might have been in a very bad condition as only 21 adult skeletons in good condition could be subjected to anthropological examination. The anthropological picture of the graveyard is similar to that of the Széchenyi cemetery, however, slight Mongoloid element can be traced. As to the ethnic character several alternatives are suggested by the author.

The excavations of the Avar age cemetery at Szeged—Kundomb were carried out in several phases (1926—1929 by F. MÓRA and K. SEBESTYÉN, 1939 by K. SEBESTYÉN and 1944 by D. CSALLÁNY). From 319 graves 176 skeletons were saved, of them 133 adults in good condition (62 males and 71 females) were suitable for a detailed morphotaxonomic study (LIPTÁK—MARCSIK, 1966). In this great series the ratio of brachycranes is overwhelming, followed by Cromagnoids and Nordoids. The presence of a chamaecrane group with archeomorphic character is striking, sometimes connected also with Mongoloid characteristics. As to the anthropological factors the Szeged—Kundomb population is closest to the Avar age population of Alattyán. Europoids are in great majority also here.

A series compiled from the sporadic finds of Avars in the precincts of Budapest was published by OLGA BOTTYÁN (1966). They are from the following sites: Békásmegyér, Óbuda—Szőlő street, Törökbálint road, Rákospalota, Soroksári road, Rákoshegy, Rákos parachute training tower, Rákoskeresztúr. Altogether 13 skulls of them (6 males and 7 females) were suitable for metric examination. The material is quite heterogeneous. The males are of Europoid and Europo-Mongoloid, the females of Mongoloid character.

Excavations of the material of the late-Avar cemetery at Ártánd were begun already in 1931 by J. SÖREGI, however, a systematic uncovering was performed only between the years 1955 and 1957 by KINGA ÉRY and A. KRALOVÁNSZKY. They have opened up the cemetery nearly completely, unfortunately about sixty per cent of the graves were destroyed as a consequence of sand mining. From 262 graves 258 skeletons were saved, they may, however, have been in very poor state of preservation as only 36 males (only 18 in really) and 27 females (16 in fairly good state of preservation) proved to be suitable for a detailed investigation. The anthropological material was published in two articles by KINGA ÉRY (1966 and 1967, respectively). The previous paper publishes extensive metric data as to the whole on the skeletal remains and attempts to express quantitatively a number of morphologic characteristics. The more comprehensive second publication besides traditional evaluation contains detailed paleodemographic data, as well. The author deals with the series as a whole, Penrose's method of „distance analysis“ is applied to compare it with series found in the area of the Soviet Union. More detailed taxonomic analysis is not included. The material is completely Europoid in character.

Salvage excavations were carried out in „Bajcsi-hegy“ near Előszállás already in 1930 (led by L. APOR). A brief publication of the saved scanty anthropological material was given by BARTUCZ (1936). The salvage excavations continued in 1952, but hundreds of graves were found already destroyed. From 251 graves 229 skeletons were uncovered in poor preservation, of them 49 males (only 15 in really good state)

and the same number of females (9 in a good state of preservation) were suitable for metric examinations. A too detailed description of the material was given by S. WENGER (1966) on more than 80 pages, where he gives the description of all the skeletons and crania together with metric data, but there are several skulls with only a few measurements (about 3—8) and characteristics. He deals with this cemetery in a more compact manner in another article published in Hungarian (1967) where he carries out first of all a detailed comparison without publishing parameters. In reference to the material instead of taxonomic determination only combinations of characteristics are mostly given by the author. This small series is mostly of Europoid character.

As a result of excavations in lane Kisrét near Vác led by GY. DEZSŐ and A. KRALOVÁNSZKY in 1958—59, 82 graves of a large cemetery from the late Avar period (supposedly containing 400—500 graves) were unearthed. Three skeletons came probably from the same cemetery as a result of salvage excavations by Á. SÓS in 1952, of which 2 skulls in a good state of preservation were described in a publication mentioned previously (LIPTÁK, 1956a). The anthropological elaboration of skeletons digged up recently was done by GY. GYENIS (1968). Of the saved 70 skeletons 20 males (only 9 in really good state) and 19 females (11 in a state of good preservation) were suitable for elaboration. The author gives description of the whole material, for characters with greater number of cases the parameters as well as tables of characteristics of crania based upon the more important indices and finally also measurements of long bones. Individual measurements are also included. The material is Europoid in its character.

In August 1950, salvage excavations were done by GY. LÁSZLÓ, B. SZŐKE, D. CSALLÁNY and P. LIPTÁK in the neighbourhood of the village Bágyog on a hill called Gyűrhegy. In this hill sand has already been mined for a longer time. Because of the endangerment of the area the sand mine was surrounded by sections of excavation to prevent — at least for a time — the destruction of the graves. The examination of the anthropological material was started by MÁRTA DEÁK, formerly working in the Museum of Győr, later the task was carried on by M. MALÁN within the frames of the museum registration. Finally GY. DEZSŐ was trusted with this work. The very careful salvage work resulted in 83 skeletons (because of double graves!) of which, according to the data of GY. DEZSŐ, the crania of 23 adult males and 20 females in a good state of preservation were subjected to metric examination. The published parameters refer to a somewhat lower number of cases. Unfortunately the author did not publish individual measurements, this circumstance is to be stressed because the skeletal remains of the cemetery are rather heterogeneous, they equally contain races belonging to the Europoid and Mongoloid great races. Archeological finds have not been published.

Near Fehértó northwest of Szeged, between the years 1929—1932 a cemetery from the Avar age was digged up in four phases under the supervision of the Szeged Museum, directed by F. MÓRA with co-operation of K. SEBESTYÉN. Archeological elaboration has not been done, so far. From the total of 376 digged up graves the remains of 204 skeletons are now housed in the Institute of Anthropology of the Attila József University, Szeged. Of the 151 adult skulls in a good state of preservation 75 males and 76 females were suitable for a more detailed metric and morphotaxonomic study (LIPTÁK—VÁMOS 1969). Thus following the Alattyán findings this is the second greatest series from the Avar age. Long bones were saved only in the case of 51 individuals. In the material the brachycrane group is the most important

„Avar period” (6th—9th century) series analysed anthropologically

Number	Site	Excavated		Well-preserved adults			Author, date of publication
		gra-ves	skele-tons	males	fema-les	total	
1	Jutas	244	23	8	15	23	Bartucz, 1931
2	Öskü	77	15	88	7	15	Bartucz, 1931
3	Győr	889	9	5	3	8	Nemeskéri, 1943
4	Ürböpuszta	56	39	10	13	23	Lipták, 1951
5	Váchartyán	64	35	10	14	24	Báta, 1952
6	Jánoshida	256	46	21	12	33	Wenger, 1953
7	Szob—Homokok	113	10	4	3	7	Lipták, 1953
8	Kecel I	91	54	26	19	45	Lipták, 1954
9	Kecel II	15	9	4	4	8	Lipták, 1954
10	Üllő I	259	116	41	41	82	Lipták, 1955
11	Üllő II	153	115	30	27	57	Lipták, 1955
12	Üllő III	2	2	1	1	2	Lipták, 1955
13	Kiskőrös—Vágóhid	75	11	6	4	10	Nemeskéri, 1955
14	Mór	25	11	7	2	9	Nemeskéri, 1955
15	Csepel	1	1	1	—	1	Nemeskéri, 1955
16	Szentes—Kaján	459	115	34	18	52	Wenger, 1955
							Bartucz, 1957
17	Zagyvarékas	9	8	2	5	7	Lipták, 1956a
18	Kiskőrös—„Pohibuj”	28	14	7	3	10	Lipták, 1956b
19	Debrecen—Ondód	57	5	2	1	3	Malán, 1956
20	Kondoros	7	4	2	2	4	Wenger, 1956a
21	Kunszentmárton	10	4	1	2	3	Wenger, 1956b
22	Homokmégy—Halom	167	84	37	34	71	Lipták, 1957
23	Alattyan	708	244	117	108	225	Wenger, 1952 and 1957
							Lipták, 1963
24	Tiszaderzs	102	34	16	17	33	Lebzelter, 1957
25	Tiszavárkony	92	58	23	9	32	Lipták, 1958
26	Szigetszentmiklós—Háros	23	11	2	2	4	Lipták, 1958
27	Harka	1	1	1	—	1	Lipták, 1959
28	Kiskőrös—Cebepuszt	5	4	—	4	4	Lipták, 1959
29	Öcsöd	1	1	—	1	1	Lipták, 1959
30	Tatárszentgyörgy	54	14	2	3	5	Lipták, 1959
31	Madaras	5	5	2	—	2	Lipták, 1959
32	Mosonszentjános	276	105	(22)	(38)	(60)	Bartucz, 1929
				8	8	16	Lipták, 1959
33	Szebeny	341	140	29	9	38	Tóth, 1961
34	Csákberény	452	102	14	7	21	Tóth, 1962
35	Budapest—Népstadion	35	17	6	1	7	Lipták, 1963
36	Szeged—Kundomb	319	176	62	71	133	Lipták—Marcsik, 1966
37	Budapest környéki avarok	21	21	6	7	13	Botlyán, 1966
38	Artánd	262	258	(36)	(27)	(63)	
				18	16	34	K. Éry, 1966 (1967)
39	Előszállás—Bajcsihegy	251	229	(49)	(49)	(98)	
				15	9	24	Wenger, 1966 (1967)
40	Vác	82	70	(20)	(19)	(39)	
				9	11	20	Gyenis, 1968
41	Bágyog—Gyűrhegy	80	83	(23)	(20)	(43)	
				20	17	37	Dezső, 1968
42	Fehértó—A	376	204	75	76	151	Lipták—Vámos, 1969

in number, but it only represents 25 per cent of the population. Next come Mediterraneans with a total of about 20 per cent, with a small percentage of Iranian (East Mediterranean) element within. In the Cromagnoid group the Cromagnoid-A taxon is the more important one. The Mongoloid component could almost be neglected. The total of the studied population indicates a common-people stratum with anthropological composition largely supporting the continuity of the population of the Avar age and that of the Árpádian one. The remarkable number of cases permits such a deduction.

General remarks

From the publications of general character we mention first the concise monograph of L. BARTUCZ (1934) quoted frequently. Concerning some single characteristics BRATUCZ carried out comparative studies, as e. g. in reference to the stature of Avars (1946—1947). He has the merit to be a pioneer of paleodemographic researches — this time concerning the Avars (1950). Taxonomic characterization of the anthropological aspect in the Avar-age populations was given by me two times (LIPTÁK, 1961, 1963). T. TÓTH published (1967) the means of supplementary data of the horizontal faciel profile in reference to series already having been elaborated by other authors, unfortunately without publishing individual measurements.

In the present review I do not consider important to deal much with the paper of E. KRECSMÁRIK (1927) referring to the Avar-period cemetery near Nagykanizsa. I have similarly made no mention of the paper of J. GÁSPÁR (1928) concerning four adult crania in good state of preservation from Sobor (county Komárom) regarded by him as belonging to the age of the Hungarian conquest. This scanty material, however, originates in reality from the Avar period (CSALLÁNY, 1956).

Mention must, however, be made of some major Avar or Avar-age cemeteries the material of which is already elaborated but for the time being in manuscripts (or in press). They are the following: Lane Kiskőrös-„Város alatt“ (49 males, 51 females), Szekszárd-Palánk (27 males, 37 females) and some smaller but in one respect or another still important materials as e. g. Bakonykoppány, Csengele-Feketehalom, Rákóczi-falva-Kastélydomb, Szarvas-Kákapusztá-Kettőshalom (this latter coming from the 9th-10th centuries).

Short summary

It can be laid down as a fact that concerning the anthropology of the Avars in Hungary there have been published also very considerable works promoting the problem of Avar ethnogenesis. It could be verified that a profound knowledge of the Avar-age populations is indispensable for the ethnogenesis of the Hungarian population. An anthropological synthesis of the Avar age from this point of view was carried out by P. LIPTÁK (in his monography in DSc: „Paleoanthropology of Ethnogenesis of the Hungarian People“, being a dissertation submitted in Summer 1967 for the degree: „Doctor of Biological Sciences“). This contains also a comparative elaboration of the series listed above — but so far not published.

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